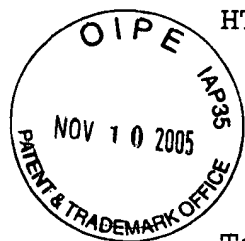


IFW

HTIRC-03-008

November 7, 2005



To: Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: Art Unit 2653 - Matthew Kayrish

From: George O. Saile, Reg. No. 19,572

28 Davis Avenue

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., 12603

Subject: | Serial No.: 10/706,838 11/12/03 |

Jei-Wei Chang et al.

NARROW TRACK CPP HEAD WITH BIAS
CANCELLATION

| _ Art Group: 2653 Matthew Kayrish _ |

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Restriction or Election Requirement in the Office Action dated 10/27/05. In that Office Action, restriction was required to one of two stated

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 8, 2005.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg.# 37761

Signature/Date

SB Ackerman 11/8/05

Inventions under 35 U.S.C. 121. The Inventions stated are Group I - Claims 17-32 to a GMR stack, classified in Class 360, subclass 324.12 and Group II - Claims 1-16 to a process, classified in Class 29, subclass 603+.

Applicant provisionally elects to be examined the Invention described by the Examiner as Group II - Claims 1-16 drawn to a process classified in Class 29, subclass 603+. This election is made with traverse of the requirement under 37 C.F.R.1.143 for the reasons given in the following paragraphs.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the Requirement for Restriction given in the Office Action. The Examiner gives the reason for the distinctness of the two inventions as (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different products or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP 806.05(f)). However, upon reading the product Claims against the process Claims one can readily see that the product Claims are directed to "a GMR stack having sidewalls and an upper surface" and the process Claims are directed to "a method to increase GMR signal strength", it is necessary to obtain claims in both the product and method claim language. The method Claims necessarily use the product and vice versa. The field of search must necessarily cover both the method class/subclass 29/603+ and products class 360/324.12

in addition to other related Classes and subclasses to provide a complete and adequate search. The fields of search for the Group I and Group II inventions are clearly and necessarily co-extensive. The Examiner's suggestion that "In the instant case, the GMR head can be formed with a process not requiring the step of using a liftoff mask, etc.", is very speculative and really has nothing to do with the Claims as presented in this Patent Application. Further, it is respectfully suggested that these reasons are insufficient to place the additional cost of a second Patent Application upon the Applicants. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw this restriction requirement for these reasons.

Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement and the Allowance of the present Patent Application is requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SBA', followed by a large, stylized flourish or 'Q' shape.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg. #37761